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get you !!?!



CHANNEL

292

... the most famous
FREE RADIOSTATION!!

FREE RADIO
WAVES

ISSUE 7 - PRICE 18p..

SW NEWS .1

ENGLAND :

We are now in a position to reveal the story behind the operations of RNI/FRBC:Radio North-sea operate in Leicestershire, mobile, from a studio specially built into the back of a Land Rover !! In recent months three raids have been made, but the only equipment lost was a generator.

Despite claims of 5 KW, RNI only use around 700 watts. Meanwhile, On September 19th. the station broadcast as the Free Radio Broadcasting Unit (previous callsigns for RNI include Sovereign and Vicky). On October 3rd. another test was made as The Free Radio Broadcasting Company. Another thing which confuses us: DeeJay James Harding has changed his name to Steve Day....Why ?

Reports can still be sent c/o P.O. Box 41, Dedemsvaart, Holland.

Skyport Radio made an extended broadcast on September 2nd. when a new aerial system was tested. The broadcast went out from 10.00-13.00 GMT on the usual channel of 6250 khz.

DeeJay Bob Earl is said to be leaving the station. Skyport's address is 134 Eastworth Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8DT.

Radio Zodiac International made a test on 25th. September on 6225 khz. from around 10.30 GMT. Programmes were of their usual progressive music form.

RZI tell us that they hope to start regular monthly broadcasts with the DJ line-up of Martin Allen, Dave Sinclair Jnr, Brian Ellis and Cris Patricks. A permanent frequency will be chosen from 6220, 6225, 6235 or 6275 khz. Radio Zodiac is a FORP member and uses the 13 The Chase, Crawley, Sussex address.

Radio Sunshine made two separate broadcasts on 11th. September: Firstly as scheduled from 10.00-11.30 GMT on 6205 khz. and then later 'simulcast' transmissions on 6235 khz, 9630 khz. and 95.0 MHz FM.

Sunshine's signal has greatly improved since their move to 6205, although they do interfere with nearby Radio Valleri. RSI's address is Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts.

European Music Radio have revised their schedule: 10.00-12.00 GMT will now be their regular broadcast times. DJ Steve Leonards has temporarily left the station and a Landbased Free Radio Show will fill his spot from 11.30 to 12.00. According to Barry Stephens this show will let European listeners hear London's many medium-wave and FM pirates, who will each produce a special programme. An English DX Show will also be introduced.

EMR would appreciate reports for their next transmission as a new piece of equipment is being tested. The address for reports is Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts; EMR broadcast on 6265 khz. every 3rd. Sunday of the month and are recommended by Free Radio Waves.

Radio Maniac have increased power from 150 watts-220 watts. Programmes are scheduled to go out every second Sunday with 10.00 Kieth Allen, 10.45 Reinhold Mardorf, 11.30 Dennis More, 12.15 Closedown.

Their mailing address is c/o Mr. E. Ryan, Thrifts Hall Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex.

Maniac have not been active recently and several people have received no answers to their letters, have they closed ?

Radio Solent City were heard on October 23rd. using their usual 6280 khz. frequency. Reception was fair throughout Europe. A feature of this broadcast was a Jim Reeves Special, hosted by Michael Jay.

Solent City use the Kent Place address in Nottinghamshire. They verify with a QSL Card and information-sheet.

IRE :

Sad news from Dublin: The Skull & Bones Radio System has been forced to close as a result of their studio being vandalised on Saturday 24th. September.

All wires were cut-including the aerial and power, valves smashed and taken, as well as the removal of some other equipment. In all £60-£100 worth of damage was inflicted. Transmissions may be re-commenced in the future. (continued)

SW NEWS • 2

E I R E (continued):

Radio Belinda International were heard on 6260 khz. on October 9th. at 15.38 GMT with a good signal. This is the same station, reported as transmitting on 227 metres medium-wave in the last edition of Free Radio Waves. They are situated in County Cavan and operate with 10 watts fed into a 200 ft. aerial.

On their short-wave transmission the power was given as 1 KW!! The address for Belinda is Box 200, 86 Roding Lane, Woodfordbridge, Essex. Apparently R.B.I will not QSL or reply to reports.

Westside Radio Dublin has re-opened, operated by ex-Radio Dublin deejay Prince Terry. A new transmitter has been built and is being used for Sunday morning transmissions on 6210 khz.

Although capable of 100 watts, the tx has been running at only 40 w. Plans are in operation to increase the output to the full capacity. Westside will verify reports with a typed QSL Card. Their address is c/o 53 Charleston Road, Dublin 6, Eire.

L O C A T I O N U N K N O W N :

Action Radio made their first test transmission on August 14th. from 10.45 until 11.00 on 6283 khz. A low-powered 11 watt tx was used, and several reports have been received from Central Europe.

Action Radio's address is Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

S C A N D I N A V I A :

Some sad news received recently is that The Free Radio League in Norway has closed, and that their P.O. Box Number in Surnadal has been terminated. This leaves many stations without an address. These events have not come as a total surprise, as the organisation has been suffering from internal disputes. It is hoped to re-start some sort of an organisation in the future.

West Coast Radio made a surprise return recently, being heard on 6217 khz. in West Germany. The power output was believed to be 40 watts.

West Coast has been active for several years, and were former members of the FRL.

Radio Viking ("The Danish Sound on 48 Metres") has been making regular broadcasts on 6225 and 6240 khz. with 50 watts. They were logged twice on September 25th—from 9.00–9.45 GMT on 6225, and on the same frequency between 11.00 and 11.45 GMT with a repeat of the first show.

Deejays are John Svensson and Oscar Hannsson.

Viking are unusual, in that they are the first Scandinavian station which has been logged regularly in the United Kingdom. Reception is usually fair, and the programmes are of a very high standard. Shows are presented in Danish and English.

Reports are verified with three sorts of sticker and a QSL Card. They use the Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Nottinghamshire address.

Radio Dolby International is a new Swedish station. They have been heard on 11th. September and 9th. October on 6220 khz. Reception throughout Scandinavia for both transmissions was fair-good.

Radio Dolby's address is c/o P.O. Box 41, Dedemsvaart, Holland.

Radio Galaxy made their first broadcast on June 19th. using 6240 khz. Programmes are currently relayed by other stations, as Galaxy do not have their own transmitter.

Deejays are Mike Linke (ex-Poseidon) and Dave Henry. Galaxy, formerly Radio North, were an FRL member station.

SW NEWS 3

SCANDINAVIA (continued):

Radio Viking's Oscar Hansson is also to be heard on the Free Fighting Radio Station. They are another Danish station, who start regular transmissions with 50 watts in the near future. Their mailing address will be c/o P.O. Box 77, Raalte, Holland.

Radio Omega, which was reported to be re-starting transmissions in September, has not yet been heard. The planned schedule was from 9.00-10.00 GMT on approx. 6275 khz. Reports will be verified with an attractive QSL Card and station information.

Their address is c/o Haartstrasse 62, 4300 Essen II, West Germany.

WEST GERMANY:

ABC Germany will be verifying all outstanding reports in the next few weeks with a printed QSL Sheet and information.

The station recently lost a great deal of equipment when their studio was broken into. Among the items stolen were the transmitter and a transformer.

ABC's schedule is as follows: 10.00 Ruby Sunshine and Dino Parker, 10.30 Kenny Jones, 11.00 Flashback Top 10, 12.00 Mailbox and 12.30 Closedown.

A total of thirty reception reports were received for their last transmission on 6240 khz.

Radio Dynamite is to be heard every fourth Sunday on either 6237 khz. or 6240 khz. Dynamite verify with a QSL Card and sticker.

Their address is c/o 13 The Chase, Crawley, Sussex, England.

Radio Kaleidoscope 2 was logged in West Germany on 18th. September on 6225 khz. The station was heard from 10.17 GMT with pop music and announcements in German.

The address for reports is c/o Heinz Balser, P.O. Box 5223, D-6300 LAHN I, West Germany.

Tower Radio was raided at 12.30 GMT on 18th. September. The station members escaped, but a 20 watt transmitter was lost.

A new 120 watt rig was recently tested, but failed to function properly. Due to these technical problems and lack of response, Tower have decided to cease transmissions. Roger St. John says there is a small chance of the station re-opening. This will be if people are actively interested in helping the station.

Anybody in West Germany willing to help out, should contact Tower c/o 13 The Chase, Crawley, Sussex.

Radio 6222 was heard for the first time on October 2nd, from 8.00 GMT until 10.40 GMT with programming mainly in English. The frequency used was 6210 khz.

One of the features of the broadcast was a Countdown Programme. Several offshore features were also aired. The id was only given in the form of a jingle and appeared to be Radio 6222.

They closed at 10.40 with "The Day The Music Died", a re-working of Don McLean's American Pie. The new version mentions the closing of the Dutch pirates in 1974.

The station suffered heavy QRM from the FRBC until 10.18 GMT, when they were heard with good strength. The station's address is P.O. Box 512, D-4440 Rheine, West Germany.

Radio Partisan have suspended transmissions until the New Year. During this time the station hopes to increase power to 120 watts. Up until now the transmitter has been running at a reduced rate.

Partisan's address is P.O. Box 41, Dedemsvaart, Holland. The station have 2 QSL Cards.

HOLLAND:

Radio Rastafari are interested in broadcasting on the 25 metre band. Tests may well be made in the very near future. Their address is either P.O. Box 278, Zutphen, Holland or 134 Eastworth Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8DT, England.

(continued).....

SW NEWS 4

HOLLAND (continued):

Radio Verona returned to the air on October 2nd, broadcasting on 6250 khz. This was one of their first broadcasts since a raid in August. They were logged from 11.55 GMT with a programme in English and German, presented by Roger Bloom (ex-Skyline). Offshore extracts were also heard later in the broadcast.

Despite the good programmes, hope's that RVI would be trying to sort out tx problems while they were off were unfounded. The mailing address is PO.Box 81, Vroomshoop, Holland.

Radio Iris made a test on 6210 khz. on August 28th. from 10.00-12.00 GMT. The deejay was Uncle Albert, who presented a programme in English and Dutch.

It is believed that Radio Iris' next broadcasts will take place on 220 metres, 95.0 Mhz. and also on 6210 khz. Mailing address is PO.Box 2036, Amsterdam.

Santana Radio is now operating fairly regularly on the 48 metre band, using several frequencies. Modulation quality is erratic, but is usually rather poor. The signal also drifts. The station's format is of Dutch traditional, pop and progressive music. Announcements are in Dutch.

The station have a very nice QSL Card which can be obtained from PO.Box 218, Almelo, Holland.

RADIO JACKIE :

London's Radio Jackie recently launched a publicity drive, which resulted in two major media appearances.

On Thursday 15th. September, BBC TV's "Nationwide" programme featured a film-report on the station's activities. The following evening the station appeared on LBC's Nightline, which is the capital's most popular phone-in show. This second appearance featured a live studio interview with station members. Listeners were able to phone-in with their questions.

The biggest impact however, was made on TV: Cameracast visited a location, where they interviewed Neil Saxon, Jackie's chief of security. Three other members demonstrated the transmitting equipment, and we also saw the lookouts at work.

This was followed with two interviews: One with chief-DJ Mike Knight, and the other with Abie Cohen. The studio was also featured.

Following this coverage, Jackie has increased the number of adverts heard during the programmes. Reports suggest that a substantial amount is being gained in advertising revenue.

LEICESTER & AREA FREE RADIO NEWS :

Radio Sunrise is a new FM station with rather low power. Broadcasts are made on 107 MHz. At the moment these transmissions are irregular, but are usually heard over the Weekend. Central Radio is heard on Wednesdays between 7.00 and 8.30 PM on 96.7 MHz VHF. The power used is about 7-10 watts and a mailing address at Leicester University is announced. The station's format is mainly progressive music.

Radio England who broadcast on 221 metres medium-wave, have also been heard testing on 94.9 MHz in Leicester. Radio England's mailing address is c/o Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Nottinghamshire, England.

Radio Galaxy operates with 15 watts output on 215 metres. The station broadcasts to the East Midlands from 11.00-1.00 GMT every Sunday morning. Programmes consist mainly of Rock 'n Roll and progressive music. Their mailing address is 13 The Chase, Crawley, Sussex.

Free Radio Focus apologise through FRW to their readers, for the delay in Issue 17. This edition will be out towards the end of November...

DUTCH M.W. NEWS

LOGBOOK (Times in GMT):

Station.....	Date...	Time...	Freq.....	SINPO....	CH...	L.....	REPLY.....	Fo.....
Hawaii	II/9	00.00	I331	34333	S	D.E.G	C.L.S.I	P.O.T
Teddy Bear	II/9	00.30	I330	33333	E	D.E.G	L.S.I	P.O.T
De Merel	I8/9	00.23	I325	45444	S	D.E	C	P.O.T
Rimbo Zender	I8/9	01.00	I331	33443	Sw	D.E.G	U	O
Black Shadow	I9/9	00.34	I330	34444	S	D.E	C.S.I	O.T
Dolphin	24/9	23.17	I330	43444	S	D.E	PC.I	P.O.T
Tony Macaroni	24/9	23.21	I315	33333	S	D.E	U	P.O.T
De Merel	2/10	23.29	I336	44444	E	D.E	C	P.O.T
Saltino	14/10	23.53	I325	32222	S	D.E	U	P.O.T
Smoky	14/10	23.55	I322	44444	S	D.E	C.L.S.I	QSO
Black Shadow	15/10	00.42	I320	34333	E	D.E	S.PC.I	T
Nolon Int.	23/10	23.58	I325	32223	E	D.E.G	U	P.O
Nolon Int.	29/10	23.00	I325	44445	E	D.E.G	U	P.O

Key: C=Country Heard: (Sw=Sweden, E=England, S=Scotland): **Language:** (D=Dutch, E=English, G=German, R=Russian): **Reply:** (PC=Postcard, C=QSL Card, S=Sticker, I=Information, U=Reply Unknown): **Format:** (P=Pop, O=Oldies, T=Traditional).

Addresses: Teddy Bear/Black Shadow/Saltino/Dolphin/Tony Macaroni c/o P.O.Box 77, Raalte.
 Merel/Hawaii c/o P.O.Box 25, Emmercompascuum, Holland.
 Rimbo Zender c/o Bijlde 22, Deventer, Holland.
 Nolon, c/o P.O.Box 11, Vlagtwedde, Holland.

Additional news: Radio Maxwell can be heard irregularly on 227 metres, with fair strength, despite poor modulation. Programmes are of the usual Dutch format: Oldies, pop and traditional. Their mailing address is Heerdstraat 19, Klazienveen, Holland.

Radio Delta was heard with their first mw transmission on 28th. August 1977. The signal in Sweden was good-fair. The mailing address for Delta is Bouwerschapsweg 33, Ten Boer, Holland.

Radio Carina can be heard most Saturday nights with good programmes. These are presented by a seventeen year old girl. The operator is her father! Their mailing address is Barrierweg 28, Zwarte-Meer, Drente, Holland.

They have been heard with fair strength in Scotland, Sweden and England.

Santiago Radio is certainly one of the best stations to have emerged from the Dutch night pirates. They are unusual in a number of ways: Programme quality and presentation is extremely high. Records are always announced individually by one deejay in English, German and Dutch.

Programmes can be heard most Saturday mornings from 00.30 GMT until 1.30 or 2.00 GMT on 227, 1331 khz.

The transmitter is 120 watts, fed into a 40 metre longwire. The studio consists of an Akai BDM-microphone, a dual-1020 record deck and a home-made reverberation unit.

Reception reports are quickly verified with an attractive QSL Card and information. The mailing address is P.O.Box 127, Doetinchem, Holland.

Radio Teddy Bear broadcast with 400 watts fed into a 30 metre longwire, some 20 metres high. Teddy Bear broadcast on 227 metres/1325 khz, 250 metres/1250 khz and 180 metres/1600 khz. at various times.

Letters are replied to with an information sheet and sticker. The address is printed above.

Radio Duckbird/Eendvogel: This station can be heard on 227 metres, with fairly high power. The station is situated near Emmen and uses a 30 metre longwire, 21 metres above ground-level.

The station formerly broadcast with Radio Warbler as Radio Blackbird International. Blackbird now transmit with their own tx. Radio Duckbird can be contacted c/o P.O.Box 31, Emmercompascuum, Holland. Reports are verified with an information/QSL Sheet.

Radio Nolon are an extremely professional station who broadcast each Friday from 23.00 GMT until 24.00 GMT. Programmes consist mainly of progressive oldies and pop music.

LONDON NEWS.

EAST LONDON RADIO 201 and 221 METRES: Community radio in East London.

Schedule:

First Week

11.00 Brian Burnett (Laid Back Music)
12.00 Steve Anthony (Golden Oldies)
13.00 Dela Were (Top 40 Countdown)
14.00 Keith Layton (Rock Show)
15.00 Roger Davies (Top 40 & Requests)
16.00 Closedown

Second Week

11.00 Ivor Biggen (Laid Back Music)
12.00 Paul Jones (Golden Oldies)
13.00 Alec Kilton (Top 40 Countdown)
14.00 Crispian McTavish (Rock Show)
15.00 Norman Spencer (Top 40 & Requests)
16.00 Closedown

News every hour on the hour with Paul Jones and Nevada Smith. News: Two new deejays have been added to the staff. Gary Lincoln has been replaced by Alec Kilton and Crispian McTavish has replaced The Red Barron. Live dedications can be made from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm on 01 534 8124 (sundays only). After 12.30 the usual 01 462 2222 number is used for reports. ELR's address is 83 Conington Crescent, Chinford, London E4.

London Music Radio has ceased broadcasts on 222 metres, 1358 khz. Internal disputes are said to be the cause of the closure.

Wonderful Radio Camden is reported to be starting transmissions on 227 metres. They have received much publicity, including a mention of Radio Sweden's "Sweden calling DX'ers".

Radio Invicta: Soul fans will be pleased to know that Invicta has resumed broadcasts on 92.4 Mhz. Transmissions are of extremely good quality and go out every Sunday from 12.00 noon to 3.00 PM.

Broadcasts feature latest imports, stateside sounds and a full rundown of Soul news in Britain. Also lined up for the near future are a number of exclusive concert recordings and interviews. These include a programme on Archie Bell and The Drells.

Invicta's address is 115 Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey. Plans are also underway to resume the stations international service.

Radio Galaxy has been heard throughout South-East England and the Midlands on 263 metres, announced as 266. The station originate from Buckinghamshire and have been heard with fair strength within a radius of 110 miles.

The station usually opens at 12.00 am and continues with seemingly live programmes, well into the afternoon. Programme and signal quality are good.

Car stickers are available from Galaxy, 27 Coronation Villas, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Radio Eleanor 227 metres: Eleanor apologise to the listeners and operators of London Music Radio after unknowingly jamming them at one stage on August Bank Holiday morning. This jamming was purely unintentional as we did not think the transmitter was of sufficient power to interfere with L.M.R.

We would also like to point out that we were not playing oldies, but LP tracks. We would not want potential listeners to get the wrong idea! The programme controller, RADIO ELEANOR.

Radio Telstar One broadcasts most Sundays from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm on 235 metres. Shows are presented live and feature mostly rock music and LP Tracks.

An on-air phone number is given out for instant requests-01 804 1177. The station also have a mailing address at 16 Brett House, Cooper's Walk, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. Reports have been received from throughout the South-East.

Radio Free Enterprise were heard on 30th. October, using 215 metres. Reception was described as fair in East London. The station hope to broadcast most Sundays, and use this address: Mr. E. Ryan, Thrifts Hall Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex.

"FM-96" has begun regular broadcasts in Cambridgeshire on 96.1 MHZ. Programme hours are from 11.00 until 12.00 BST with Deejay Jon Stevens. The format consists mainly of singles and album music.

The mailing address is Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Nottinghamshire, England.

FREE RADIO FOCUS 15: Latest news on offshore/landbased scene. 15p + SAE from FRF, 13 The Chase, Crawley, Sussex RH10 6HW, England. International readers should send three international reply coupons.

RADIO GEMINI

Although landbased pirate radio has been around on the shortwaves for quite a long time, it seems that 'happenings' occurring in the 49 metre band really got off the ground during 1972. It was at this time, when the only regular pirate station on the air was World Music Radio, that Radio Gemini began. I would like to think that since this time, Radio Gemini has made a fair name for itself and most 'pirate' DXers have heard or at least heard of the station.

Radio Gemini began in November 1972 and was run by only two people. The same is true today although considerable changes have occurred during the past five years. Time has shown that even good stations like WMR or ABC Europe find it difficult if not impossible to keep going indefinitely, and each station has different problems associated with its operation. In the case of Radio Gemini, there is no lack of enthusiasm, but the time and effort needed to keep the station going is always getting harder to come by.

At the beginning of 1973, we had two transmitters operating from two different sites and the station was on the air for one hour a week—every Sunday between 10.00 and 11.00 GMT. Each transmitter broadcast one half of the programme—the first from 10.00 - 10.30 and the second from 10.30 to 11.00.

By operating this way we managed to keep on the air for just over one year, which is not bad considering that the same two sites were used every week. Because the shows contained numerous offshore radio extracts—known to us as 'Gems', the station developed a sound that I do not think has yet been duplicated. It seems that people like to be reminded of the old offshore days, and the fact that we had some old offshore recordings made by ourselves during the 1960's, was one of the main reasons for starting the station.

Anyway, 1973 was about to draw to a close, when early in December the dastardly GPO raided one of our sites. The raid and ensuing court case taught us a great deal about how not to operate a landbased radio station, and the £130 fine gave a great incentive to avoid being caught in the future. The loss of our permanent sites meant we could no longer broadcast regular programmes, and since that time, broadcasting has only been possible when a new site is found and the relevant programme recorded. Our shows have always been pre-recorded because this enables our expensive studio equipment to be kept out of harms way while the station is on the air. At the present time, Radio Gemini is only on the air on average once every 6-7 weeks, and the effort that goes into each operation is considerable. All the transmitting equipment is set up at the chosen site a day or so before the actual programme date, and is automatically switched on and off by electric time clocks. This means that there is normally no one at the site during the broadcast. If the site is raided, the equipment would of course be lost, but no fine would be incurred.

One vital factor influencing the existence of Radio Gemini is of course the listeners. We have always had an enthusiastic response from our listeners, and without this the station would have stopped long ago. Hopefully, Radio Gemini will still be around for some time to come, but only time will tell. In the mean time, I hope that what the station lacks in quantity, it makes up for in quality. We have always believed in keeping the transmitted programme quality as high as the home built equipment will allow. Try tuning our way next Sunday—6230 in the 49 metre band. We may not be there, but if we are, I guarantee that the programme will be worth listening to,

EDWIN BORG FOR RADIO GEMINI

Technical information:- Transmitter power is usually 150 watts and the programmes are pre-recorded with a compressed characteristic to increase the modulation depth.

The Studio comprises 2 Revox A77 tape machines which together with AKG 202 mikes, Garrard decks and other ancillary tape machines, enable the Gemini style of compilation show to be compiled.

QSL's are used to verify correct reports sent to 6 Farm Way, Bushey, Watford, Herts. Stickers, information-sheets and other items are available to listeners on request.

THE W.M.R STORY *

"THE PIRATE DAYS"....

It is well known that World Music Radio ranks with ABC Europe, Radio Valentine etc. as one of the great short-wave pirate stations. It's not so well known that World Music Radio first appeared in 1963 as a Dutch medium-wave station, called simply VRON. Broadcasts went out three times per week on 186 metres. These broadcasts only reached a small audience due to lack of service area. Therefore, mw transmissions lasted less than a year.

In August 1964 the station switched to short-wave, now using the name "Carolien" on 7050 khz in the 41 metre band. The format was of a mixture of pop and classical music which was itself very unusual at the time.

In 1965 another namechange to "Euroweekend Radio" was made and broadcasts started on the 49 metre channels of 6025 and 6045 khz. The station was now attempting to reach an international audience with programmes in English and French with regular news bulletins. This set the foundations for the future and saw the start of the international format.

In 1967 a final name change was made - this time to "World Music Radio". A new channel of 7 khz. was used with 10 watts of power. Despite this low output reception reports poured in from all over Europe and outside. A few more frequency and power changes were made before finally settling on 6251 khz. with 45 watts. With all teething problems passed, WMR were well on their way to becoming Europe's number one.

WMR was the brainchild of a young Dutch person called Theo Verstraeten. Like many others, he was very bored with the Dutch broadcasting system as it was in the early sixties. Indeed, only thirty minutes of pop music per week were played on state radio. The music revolution in the States had been completely ignored.

After leaving school, Theo trained as an electronics engineer. He developed an interest in radio stimulated largely by the offshore stations and became increasingly devoted to the world of short-wave. His enthusiasm however was continually frustrated by the dull and often un-professional programming put over by most short-wave stations. He realised that the real reason so few people listened to sw was that the programmes were orientated towards national, political and religious propaganda. We live in a world of international popular music, he reasoned, so why not listen to the music anywhere in the world via short-wave.

Theo then began testing his theories by broadcasting contemporary music on modestly powered tx's. Things just developed from here.

Eventually a mailing address was announced on the air, the now-famous 79 Rookery Lane, Rainford, St. Helens, Lancs - and the letters poured in. Later Theo's home made rig was replaced by a professional Collins TX.

Programmes were produced in English, Dutch and German every Sunday. Here is a typical schedule:- WMR Programmes effective from January 1973. Times in GMT:

First Week:

09.00 Theo Verstraeten (English)
11.00 Poul Dane (English)
12.00 A-MH 2 (Progressive Music)
13.00 Studio 2 met Theo (Dutch)
14.00 Closedown

Second Week:

10.00 John O'Mill Show (English)
11.30 WMR Mailbox.
12.30 45 Toeren op 49m met Andre (Dutch)
13.30 Music Till 2 - Guest DeeJay.
14.00 Closedown.

Every first and third Sunday two DX' Programmes were aired, "The DX World of WMR" was aired in English between 09.30 - 09.45 (Repeated at 12.00) with Steve Wainwright and in German from 09.45-10.00 (Repeated at 12.15) with Reinhold Mardorf. This meant that Theo Verstraeten was on from 09.00-09.30 and A-MH 2 was not broadcast.

A WMR club was formed in 1973 for their many listeners. Membership was £1.20 and members received a WMR Record, schedule, pens etc. as well as a quarterly newsletter, "The World of WMR".

Throughout their existence it had always been the policy to continue broadcasts, only until
(continued)

World Music Radio Story(continued): challenged by the authorities. Those involved with the station did not wish to play "cat and mouse" with the PTT. Not until 1973 did this threat become a reality: On Sunday August 19th. the Dutch PTT received a complaint from the BBC Monitoring station about illicit broadcasts from North Holland. The PTT officials on investigation, traced the signals to the port of Den Helder in the extreme North. The WMR antenna was spotted, the building found and at 10.58 GMT the transmitter was silenced.

At the following court case in Alismaar, the magistrate took note of the fact that WMR had in all its ten years never interfered with another station and the tx conformed to all requirements laid down by the Dutch PTT. He imposed a nominal fine of Dfl 100. The leniency of the Dutch authorities did little to help the station return to the air. Despite hundreds of pleading letters WMR fell silent.

During its ten 'pirate' years, WMR mentioned no locations. To have done so would have made it no longer an International station - WMR for example would have become Dutch or German. World Music Radio also rejected the 'clandestine' image and never considered themselves a 'free radio' station, but one which is subject to the same restraints and responsibilities of the other media.

WMR's pirate days may have been over, but not so their broadcasting days. These took a very different turn ! They will be described in the next issue of Free Radio Waves.

WMR's station staff were:- Theo Verstraeten, Poul Dane, John O'Mill, Steve Wainwright, Dave Hanleigh, Reinhold Mardorf, Andre, Mike Tony, Roger Lyon, Gordon Blue, Patrick de Saint Pierre, Steve Poulson, Dieter, Ellen and Nelly.

Reception reports were received from France, Sweden, Norway, Italy, Denmark, Britain, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Finland, Holland and even from Japan ! At the end the power was 1 KW and programmes were broadcast from 09.00-16.00 GMT.

Ian Biggar.

RADIO CORSAIR

Radio Corsair's first transmission was made on October 25th. 1975. The frequency used was 227 metres, 1331 khz. and a power of just 5 watts was used. This was fed into a 70 foot long-wire aerial.

From that day onwards, transmissions were made every Sunday afternoon from 1.00 PM - 2.00 PM, in the Greater London area. Due to the low power, the service area was restricted, and the audience therefore very small. However, transmissions continued regularly up until March 1976. Due to neighbourly complaints, Corsair was raided by the Police for disturbing the peace ! In the resulting panic, the 5 watt medium-wave transmitter was destroyed and Corsair fell silent.

Four months later a 7 watt transmitter was tested on 6225 khz, 48 metres. The reason for the band switch was to increase the service area, therefore reaching a larger audience.

Due to poor band conditions Corsair received only a few reports. Broadcasts were suspended until March 16th. 1977. On this day a new 15 watt transmitter was tried on 6255 khz. Corsair now broadcast on 6250 khz every Sunday morning.

Throughout their short-wave life, Radio Corsair and Skyport Radio have helped each other with locations and the production of programmes. Indeed, Skyport DJ's can often be heard guesting on Corsair.

DX'ers will be pleased to note that the station now have some yellow and black QSL Cards available. The mailing address for reception reports and requests is 134 Eastworth Road, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8DT.

Corsair equipment : 15 watt tx, anode to screen modulation. 90' end fed longwire. The studio consists of 2 BSR decks, Grundig reel-to-reel tape recorder, mixer and microphone.

Issue Number Eight of "Free Radio Waves" will be available in mid-January. Order your copy by sending 18p + SAE to Flagstones, West Heath Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1TA, England. Overseas readers should send two international reply coupons (IRC's).

BRITAIN RADIO

"WHY RADIO PIRATES TAKE A SPIN IN THE COUNTRY" FROM THE DERBYSHIRE TIMES, AUGUST 26th. 1977.

An international pirate radio station is operating from a studio somewhere in the Alfreton area. The illegal station - Britain Radio International - boasts an audience of several thousands throughout Britain and the continent and claims to be the sixth most popular of its kind in Europe.

Many local people have probably tuned in never realizing the programme was made virtually on their doorsteps or that they were breaking the law purely by listening to the pop shows. The leader of the pirates is a radio technician calling himself Steve Jones. It's not his real name - only his closest friends and family know his true identity. Steve, a 28-year old father of two, runs the station with the help of his wife and a small band of helpers, all of whom are sworn to secrecy.

For every time B.R.I broadcasts those involved are risking a hefty fine and the confiscation of all equipment which makes up the station - a penalty which would run into thousands of pounds.

The radio pirates were outlawed ten years ago this month by the Marine Broadcasting Offences Act which killed off most of the offshore stations of the sixties. Today most of Europe's pirates have moved from the medium wave to the short wave to make detection more difficult. It is illegal to even listen to the stations.

In an exclusive interview with the "Derbyshire Times", Steve Jones told why he defies the law and why he has managed to escape the authorities so far. Every broadcast relies on an intricate undercover operation to escape detection by Home Office trackers.

B.R.I usually confines itself to Sunday broadcasts on the short wave but Steve has already made tests on the more popular medium wave and VHF. The shows are taped in a sound-proofed studio at Steve's home and are transmitted from portable equipment, which is loaded into a friend's van and taken into the country.

"We daren't broadcast from a permanent base", said Steve, "because the chances of being caught are too great. We take a pin and stick it on a map, we virtually broadcast from there". But he has had two close shaves. Once officers of the Home Office arrived at his home but went away when he pleaded ignorance. During another broadcast he was chased over fields and across a river when the show was interrupted.

That is where the look-outs come in. Armed with walkie-talkies they take up vantage points some miles from the transmission spot and provide an efficient early-warning system. Letters sent to B.R.I are sent via a mailing address in Newark and so far he has received mail from almost every European country including some from behind the Iron curtain.

This weekend B.R.I will undertake its most ambitious and dangerous project so far. Steve will boost the power for a special Bank-Holiday broadcast which he thinks could even be picked-up in Australia.

"We are taking a big risk but we are taking every precaution. I have survived because I am careful not to be a nuisance. The slap-happy pirates who don't care about interference only last about six weeks". At Christmas B.R.I plans to take an even bigger risk by broadcasting on V.H.F. IF it's still in business !

Our thanks to Britain Radio for the extract taken from the Derbyshire Times. B.R.I's address is Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Nottinghamshire, England. Correct reception reports will be verified with a QSL Card and mini-stickers.

"JOLT" : Jolt is one of the best Punk Fanzines produced in London. Plenty of exclusive pictures, news and interviews for all into the New Wave. Great naughty cover and only 30p + SAE from Lucy Toothpaste, 40 Coolhurst Road, London N.8. Issue three contains features on X-Ray Spex, Buzzcocks, The Jolt, Mary Whitehouse !?! and much more.

+++Please mention "Free Radio Waves" when replying to any advert in this magazine-Thank you++

RADIO DUBLIN .v. A.R.D

DAGGERS DRAWN AS PIRATES BATTLE FOR AIRWAVES:

Radio Dublin, the inshore pirate station this week accused rival pirate station "Alternative Radio Dublin" of starting a smear campaign against them. The accusations were made by Eamon Cooke, the station's newscaster, in the course of a Starlight investigation into the relationship between the two stations.

Our investigations were sparked off last week when we received a letter from a Mr. Byrne, accusing us of featuring "The imposter Radio Dublin". Mr. Byrne suggested we contacted "Doctor Don" (Don Moore) who levelled the following charges against Radio Dublin: 1) Sabotaging transmitters and aerials, 2) Making threats of violence, 3) Deliberately ramming his car, 4) Hurling abuse at him on the air, 5) Sending live spiders through the post, 6) Interfering with A.R.D post.

"Until about May we were one station", Mr. Moore said. "But we split when I suggested that the money we made from the Radio Dublin Tee-Shirts that were being printed, should go into the station funds. Eamon wanted to keep the money for himself and a third party". He later continued, "He kept the 2,000 watt transmitter and we received the smaller 1,000 watt transmitter. I understood that he was going to sell the big transmitter and keep the money. As it was, he recruited a few other people and went on the air using the same frequency as Radio Dublin. Since then we have broadcast as Alternative Radio Dublin and all the things I've mentioned have happened:

Free Radio Waves: Due to lack of space, we are unable to reprint the whole article which was in Irish pop paper "Starlight". Don went on to tell how studios had been wrecked, and how he had been accused of running off with money on Radio Dublin's news programme. Anyway, back to the article:

When confronted with the accusations Mr. Cooke denied them completely: "For a start how in God's name can you send a spider through the post" he said. "The accusations are totally ludicrous. Even the story of the split is untrue. It came after Doctor Don had appealed for listeners to send in subscriptions to the station. I was totally disgusted".

"As for the story about ramming his car, the man knows that isn't true. The officer involved will bear witness to that. What happened was that we got a call from a pub across town, about something to do with the programmes. We were driving through the park when we saw his car. As we were pulling level he moved into us. When he saw who it was he jumped out with a club, but one of the boys in the car restrained him."

"The man has been a menace to us. My transmitter aerial wire has been cut several times, and I've seen his car speeding away afterwards. He's gate crashed functions we've held. He's conned people into giving interviews with him by saying he's Radio Dublin. He's even gone in and collected money for sponsored programmes that we were supposed to do, and collected records from people who thought they were giving them to us".

This article is an edited form of "Starlight's" report on The Big D. Thanks to Pat Healy for sending us a copy of the magazine.

JOYEUX NOEL- - - - -FROHE WEIHNACHTEN- - - - -PRETTIGE KERSTDAGEN
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT FREE RADIO WAVES. THANKS TO YOU ALL.....

FREE RADIO WAVES, Flagstones, West Heath Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1TA, E N G L A N D.

EDITOR: SIMON PARRY.

SPECIAL REPORTER: IAN BIGGAR.

Contributors: Mike Burden, Erik Bjerre, DDXLK, FRM Holland, Mark Dezzani, Eugene Perera, Adam Samuel, Pat Healy, Chris Cortez, Barry Stephens, Roger Tate, ELR, Skull & Bones, Prince Terry, Leon Mitchell, Jon Dawson, Radio Corsair, Steve Jones, and many others. Thanks for your help with this issue.

SW NEWS:

Ex-FRL member Radio Galaxy now have a new address: Box 562, DK-6700, Esbjerg, Denmark; This address will be used for another Danish 48 metre pirate, as yet un-named.

Radio Viking have changed their frequency to 6107 khz. The station also intends to produce a small magazine, called "RV News". One of the station's deejays, Oscar Hansson (ex-Free Sunday, King Kong etc) was heard on Radio Corsair on 13th. November. Viking's excellent QSL will be printed in our next edition.

Radio Iris have begun regular transmissions on 6210 khz. between 10.00 and 3.00 GMT in Dutch and English. Reception is usually fair-good, despite interference from Radios Valleri, Westside, Tina and Sunshine ! This has caused severe jamming of the emergency channel, 6204 khz.

Radio Tina was heard on 6th. November at 10.30 GMT on 6205 khz. Our reporter says that the Kent Place address was announced, although the station is not known there. Progressive music was played with announcements by a British DJ. More details on this station would be very welcome.

Action Radio: The staff of Action Radio have suspended plans for broadcasts in the near future. It is however possible that broadcasts will start early in 1978 with a power of about 100 watts.

Although the station say they have never been on the air, they have received several reception reports. This is probably due to the fact that many stations use the word "Action" in their slogans and jingles. This is why a new callsign is to be used.

At first it was planned to play only Punk Rock, but they have now decided to play other types of music.

Their original transmitter has been giving severe technical problems, and will not be used.

.....
Local MW & FM:

LONDON: FM has recently lighted up, with three new stations either on the air or planning transmissions in the near future. Radio Activity tested on 92.6 MHz from 8.00pm on 6th. November. The deejay was Bob Edwards, ex-London Music Radio. The mailing address was Box LMR, c/o 19 Newport Court, London. Radio North Kent was also heard on 6th. November from 8.00 PM in stereo. The frequency was 92.8 MHz. North London Radio is to start Sunday evening broadcasts. The frequency will be around 92.8 MHz.

More details on Radio Free Enterprise: They operate on 214 metres with 200 watts from 11.00 AM-4.00 PM. Deejays are The Red Barron (ex-ELR), RF Burns, Captain Cauliflour and Paul De Crystal. The address can be found in our London news section.

ZZARRE BROADCASTS !?! Heard in London from 00.00-2.45 GMT on November 13th. was Radio Guinness International. Deejays for the broadcast were "You know who" and Prof. Everett. The "programmes" featured pop music, broadcasting experiences and periodic gaps for other stations to come up. Those mentioned were:- Liverpool St. Radio, Radio Hackney, Radio Free Enterprise, Radio Randy Vicar and Radio Insomnia.

RGI's address is c/o Thrifts Hall Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex.

Dublin:

SATURDAYS: Alternative Radio Dublin from 12.00 - 8.00 PM on 257 metres.

Radio Dublin from 12.00 - 11.00 PM Sunday on 253 metres.

WEDNESDAYS: Radio Dublin from 8.00 PM - 2.00 AM Thursday on 253 metres.

ARD Deejays are Dr. Don, Prince Terry, Paul Downey, Arno St. Jude and DJ. Debbie. Note: Radio Dublin has been logged in Scotland twice with fair-poor signals.

Aylesbury: More details on Radio Galaxy: The station now broadcast every Sunday from 10.30 until 3.30. The power used is only 20 watts, although the station have a huge coverage area. They have eight deejays: Tony Dene, Mark Roberts, Steve Knight, John Mason, Richard Marshall, Paul Douglas and Chris Barratt.

Galaxy reply with some nice dayglow green stickers. For their address, see inside the magazine.

International MW: Heard in England on November 12th. was Zender Marianna on 250 metres. The deejay was a very charming sounding young lady! Reception here in Kent was fair-good. All announcements were in Dutch. The address is Berkhof, Eperweg 39, Oene, Holland.

Since their recent raid, ABC England have changed their policy and made several important decisions. In this Frw exclusive, Chris Cortez of ABC tells what's been happening:

1). ABC England was subjected to another Hom0 raid on September 4th. 77. Has this latest raid had any effects on the station? Yes. There have been three effects. (1) There is now the need to construct replacements for the fake 'transmitter' and aerial system lost in the raid (The full correct details of the raid will be made available by ABC) (2) A motor car belonging to an ABC England member has sustained £50 worth of serious damage to it's bodywork, Hom0 official Michael Peter Hawkins being indirectly responsible for this damage. (3) ABC England will in future be adopting a new 'tough' attitude to counter the communist style tactics of the Colchester Hom0. This changes from the gentlemanly way ABC has played the situation since September 75, and stems directly from the 'car damage incident' and the Hom0's tactics of trespass, obstruction, wilful damage, personal threats etc.

2). On the Nov 6th. 77 broadcast, ABC failed to come on the air. The first time in it's history that the station has missed a scheduled transmission! What were the reasons for this non-appearance? There were two reasons: (1) It had been planned to introduce a new higher-powered tx on that date, to overcome the severe jamming from other so-called free radio stations and the Hom0. The new tx was not completed, and so it was decided not to go on the air in case of further jamming! (2) Although ABC England's Nov. 77 DX-Bulletin was recorded late at night to hopefully avoid the "reduced power" effect of the strike by British power workers, when the tape was previewed early on the morning of Nov. 6th, it was found to give a Pinky and Perky effect due to the low voltage the previous night. So the recording could not possibly have been broadcast.

3). ABC England has announced a suspension of broadcasts for at least six months with a springtime 78 return to the air only a 'hoped for possibility'! What are the reasons for the big switch-off? The reasons are many and complicated. So here is just the main 'nitty gritty'. The running of a real free radio station on a regular basis without a proper break for over two years, takes a lot of money, equipment and dedicated hard work. We need time to service equipment, improve facilities, do production work etc. Also, several people such as Sarah and Michael Ellis have unexpectedly left the station. This means that ABC England currently has unsatisfactory equipment and only four members of staff-Gary Day, Andy Exx, Paul Fox and Chris Cortez. This six months off the air will allow things to be "got together".

Other reasons for the temporary closure are: (1) The jamming of our signal by Dutch and English so-called free radio stations! (ironically, had our new higher power tx been ready for use on Nov 6th 1977 on 6270 khz, we would still have had problems from Britain Radio International who were on the frequency in spite of our well-known regular schedule!)

(2) The poor support our station has received from various free radio organisations in England and the total lack of a proper FRC England to support us. FRC Scotland, FRC France and FRC Ireland have given us excellent support, but FRC England-it does not exist of course (if any FRW member knows the secret of persuading London's inappropriately named Free Radio Campaign-if they still exist-to reply to letters, then let us know!).

Unless the genuine free radio fanatics in England get things together soon and prove to us that ABC England is really needed to maintain the 'on air' fight for free radio which Radio Caroline refuses to do, then the station's closure may become permanent. We at ABC do not want to see the station die, after achieving so much, but we will not take the many risks, merely to broadcast to a collection of Magazine editors, Radio Caroline supporters and LA freaks. We want free radio supporters!

All the Radio Caroline books, records etc. that have been sold since 1972 have not helped towards the introduction of Free Radio on land in England. Perhaps Free Radio Waves can lead the way towards a united campaign for Free Radio on land in England: Towards a FRC England made up of people who really understand what free radio is, and who want it established on dry land and not a tatty wreck twelve miles off the end of Southend pier.

(continued)

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Here's hoping that ABC England will be back on the air during 1978, broadcasting to a united free radio movement. Perhaps then we will be able to answer the one question that we have always been asked- "How can I help fight for free radio in England?".

Chris Cortez.

(c) FRW and ABC England. November 1977.

Editor: Although agreeing with Chris and ABC on most points we do have different ideas with regards to one or two other ideas.
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" Q S L S P O T " : European Music Radio's new card:

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The card is printed red and black on a white background. They also have available some stickers.
.....

ALTERNATIVE VOICE: 20p. + SAE from 7 Woodside Grove, Hartburn, Stockton, Cleveland: Latest issue features offshore, landbased and DX' News. Also, exclusive interviews with big name DJ's and news from the "Alternative World". Recommended as a good general coverage magazine.

DDXLK PIRATE LIST: New list out now with details of all SW Pirates (Powers, addresses, DJ's, schedules etc). Plus listings of Dutch MW pirates, illustrated with pictures and QSL Cards.

Send 2 IRC's for a sample copy to DK-8723 Løsning, Denmark. This is also the address for all contributions.

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